

CAPSULE SUMMARY - CT-1032 BRISCOE BARN 'A'

Briscoe Barn 'A' is located on a farm known as the Cage. The barn is associated with a tenant house and a second tobacco barn. Oriented on a east-west axis, this 24 x 40 barn is built into the side of a small barn. Both circular sawn and re-used, hewn timbers were used in the construction. Wire nails and modern carpentry techniques suggest a 20th century date of construction. Modifications to this barn include an enlarged door opening to accommodate vehicles, and a change in the vertical distance between the tobacco tier poles.

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Magi No.

DOE \_\_\_yes \_\_\_no

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common Briscoe Barn A

## 2. Location

street &amp; number The Cage, Cage Road \_\_\_ not for publication

city, town St. Leonard MD ☒ vicinity of Wallville congressional district

state MD county Calvert

## 3. Classification

<b>Category</b>	<b>Ownership</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Present Use</b>	
___ district	___ public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	___ museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	___ unoccupied	___ commercial	___ park
___ structure	___ both	___ work in progress	___ educational	___ private residence
___ site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	___ entertainment	___ religious
___ object	___ in process	___ yes: restricted	___ government	___ scientific
	___ being considered	___ yes: unrestricted	___ industrial	___ transportation
	___ not applicable	___ no	___ military	___ other:

## 4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Cassandra Briscoe

street &amp; number telephone no.: 301-586-1343

city, town St. Leonard state and zip code MD 20685

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Calvert County Courthouse liber ABE 297

street &amp; number Main Street (MD 765) folio 91

city, town Prince Frederick state MD

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date \_\_\_ federal \_\_\_ state \_\_\_ county \_\_\_ local

pository for survey records DEPT. OF PLANNING & ZONING  
COURT HOUSE

city, town PRINCE FREDERICK, MD. 20678

state

## 7. Description

Survey No. CT-1032

### Condition

☒ excellent  
☐ good  
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated  
☐ ruins  
☐ unexposed

### Check one

☐ unaltered  
☒ altered

### Check one

☒ original site  
☐ moved      date of move \_\_\_\_\_

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

This Briscoe Barn A is located on the Briscoe property known as the Cage. From Mackall Rd., turn right onto Cage Rd., right on gravel driveway to tenant house. The barn is located below the tenant house on the hill. Another Barn is slightly to the south of this barn. There is a gully from an old stream bed between the barns and the house. Both barns and house are on hills, and the old streambed runs between. The barn is built into the hillside, with the lowest portion of the barn on the southern side of the hill. A farm road runs up to the gully that separates the tenant house from the barn. The rest of the way must be approached on foot.

The barn is built of circular sawn lumber with wire nails. Some re-used hewn timbers are also visible. The barn dimensions are twenty by forty-four feet. The southern side is comprised of a fourteen by forty-four foot shed built into the hillside. Modern in construction, this tobacco barn with its bank stable built into the hillside, is relatively rare in the county. The barn has four eight foot bays and one twelve foot bay centered along the long walls. It contains eleven rooms. There are two twelve-foot wide doorways, one on the west side and the other on the north. The upper story of the southern bank shed is used to hang tobacco, and the lower portion is for stabling.

A continuous poured concrete foundation mixed with fieldstone, supports the structure. The barn has a concrete slab flooring. The timber frame rests on sills interrupted for the entry of vehicles. The sills rest on the poured concrete foundations. The posts are circular sawn, some are reused hewn ones. Two down braces are located on each gable end, and two on each facade. The barn is sided with vertical weatherboards. Hinged ventilation doors are on all three sides. Roof rafters are on four foot centers with a flat false plate. Windbraces on the north side and two collars help support the metal roof. Posts down the center have been sawn off at approximately eight feet above ground. The current tobacco hanging distance is five feet.

The shed is built into the hillside and is sided with vertical wall siding on the upper story, and is open on the lower. Metal roofing covers the shed. The shed is probably contemporary with the barn. Most of the materials are similar, and the concrete used for internal supports is the same unusual local mix as that for the shed. In addition, there is no separation between the barn and shed roof (same rafters). The original unusual poured concrete support system for the shed has disappeared and been replaced by external earth-fast posts. There are ventilation doors visible on the upper portion of the shed approximately six feet apart. The shed has been used most recently for stabling, with only the upper level used for curing tobacco.

## 8. Significance

Survey No. CT-1032

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

### Specific dates

### Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D  
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☐ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

Constructed at some point during the twentieth century, this tobacco barn is unusual in several ways. It is built into the hillside and has been used for stabling along this southern side. Changes in the structure of the barn reflect changing agricultural and construction techniques. The extensive use of poured concrete foundations is also unusual.

Historic Period/theme(s): Twentieth Century, Tobacco

Geographic Organization:

Chronological/Developmental Period:

Resource type(s): Tobacco Barn, Stable

The following modifications have been made to this structure in order to accommodate vehicles. A large door was inserted in the east gable end. The tobacco hanging system was moved from a near-ground location to eight feet above. There are remains of a poured concrete support for a cross-sill extant. This concrete and the cross-sill it supported have been removed.

Changes in demand for tobacco hanging capacity are also reflected in the structure. A shorter vertical distance was previously used (as evidenced by unused supports for tier poles). The shed was probably originally used to hang tobacco. There is evidence of nailers and tier poles having existed at the lower level, although these have since been removed. In addition, it appears that the shed wall including the lower level was once continuously sided with vertical siding (half-lap joints for nailers in old corner posts).

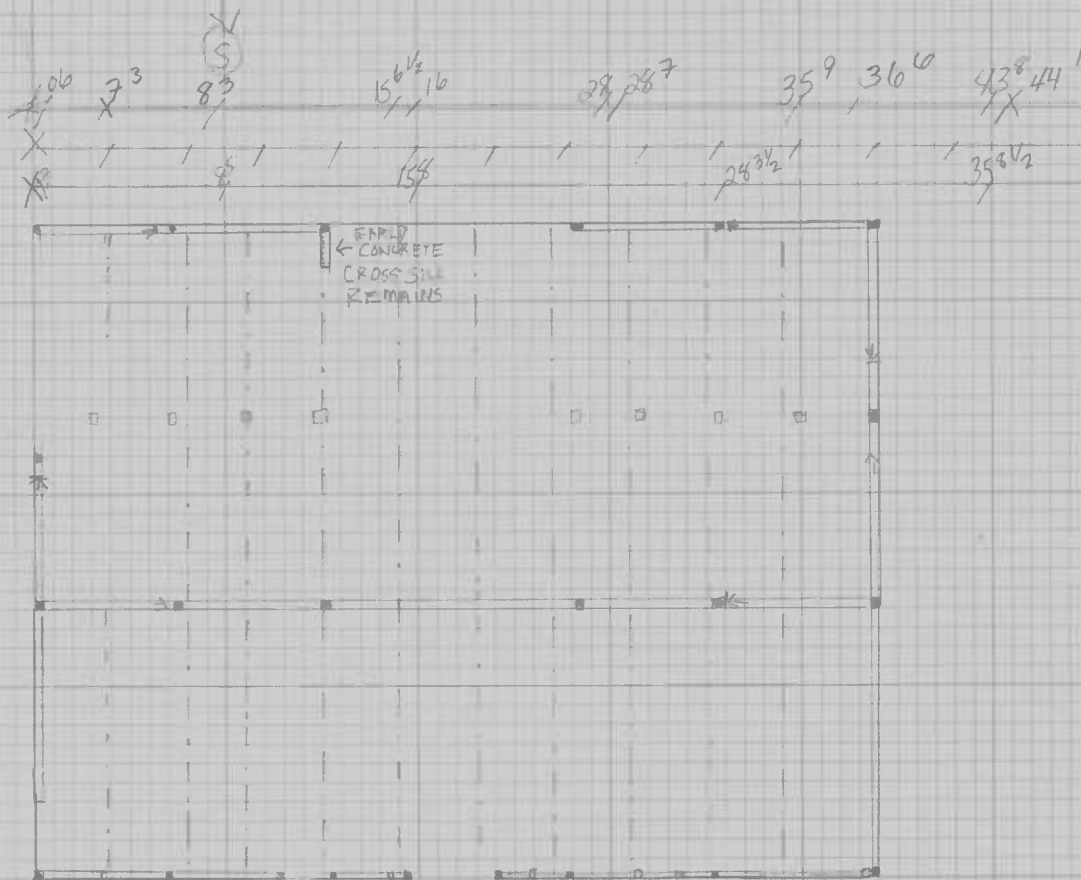
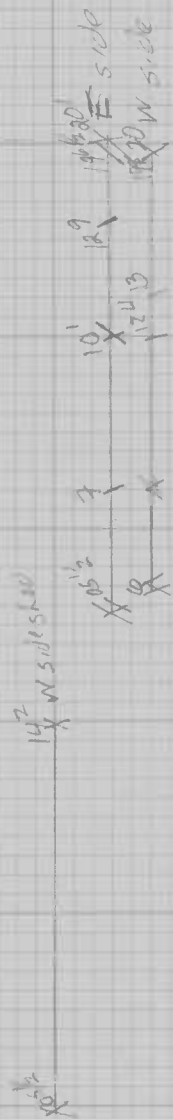
The shed evidences an unusual support technique. The method of construction was to pour a continuous foundation and lay the posts into this foundation. the posts were removed at some point, and the sill was laid on top of the concrete and the posts were placed into the pre-existing notches cut out of the sill and into the holes in the concrete. The sill has largely rotted, although a small portion remains. The current support system is simple earthfast posts outside the shed.



SCALE 1" = 10' BRISCOE BARN #3005

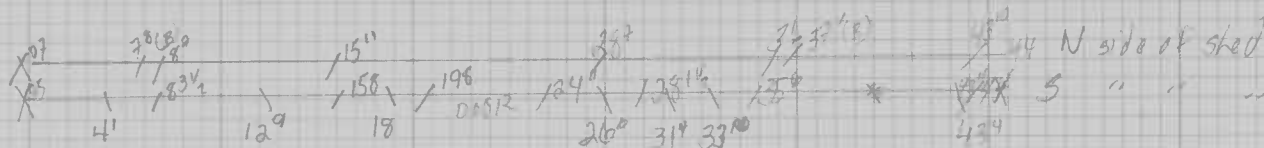
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CT-1032

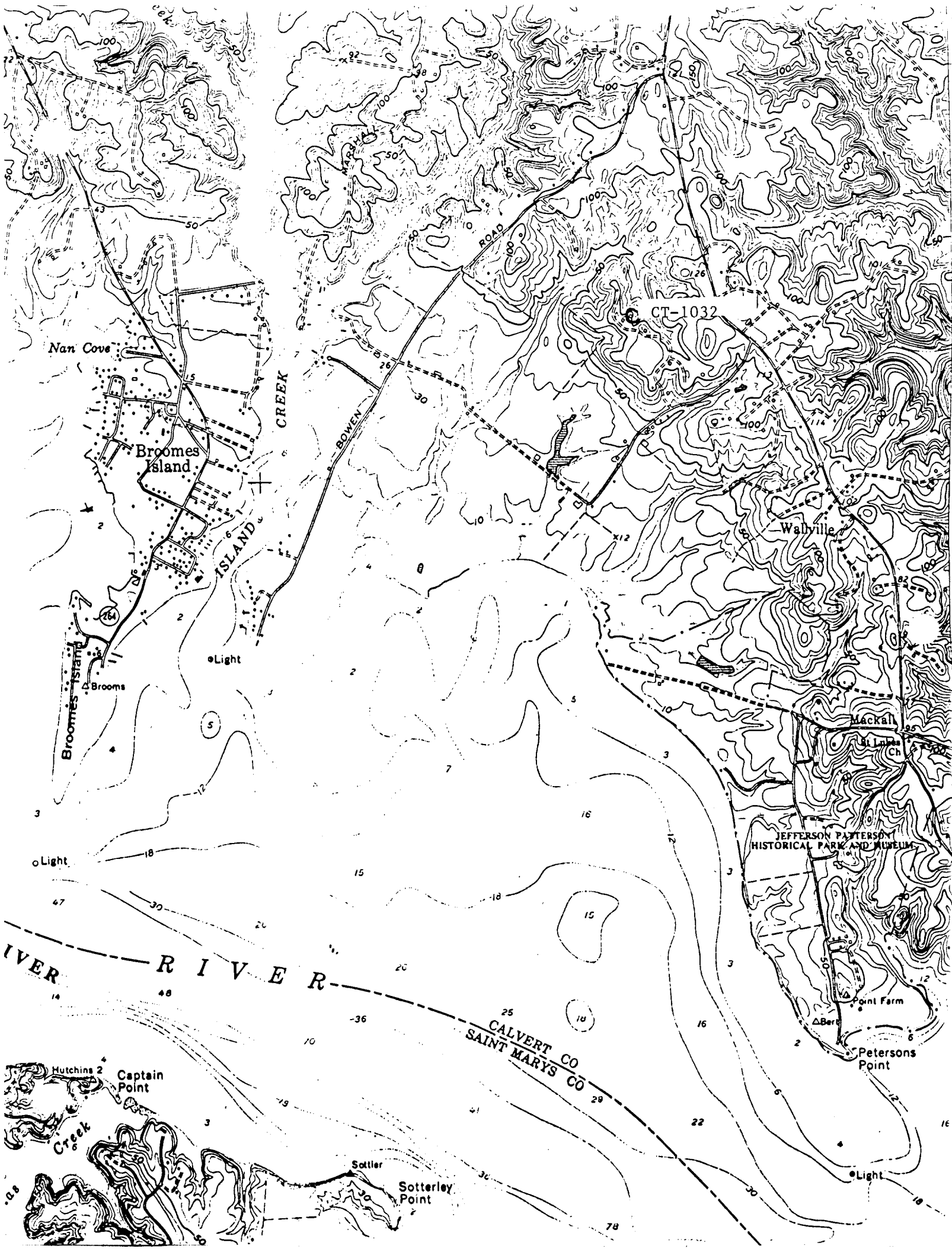


+ N side of barn  
+ poles down central axis  
+ S side of barn

□ = holes for posts set into concrete  
evidence of contemp. sill (wood) laid on top  
vertical wall siding











CT-1032

St. Leonard

Tona & William

Small wood

11/10/1920